

ALBANY.

THE BOARD OF AUDIT BILL IN THE HANDS OF THE GOVERNOR.

THE SENATE AMENDMENT ADOPTED—FOOLISH ANTICS OF THE DEFEATED CLIQUE—THE WORK OF THE BOARD OF AUDIT—A MOUNTAIN OF WORK PILING UP.

(FROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.)
ALBANY, Jan. 26.—The bill to provide for the payment of claims against the City and County of New-York, as amended by a vote of 60 to 39, and is now in the hands of the Governor. The President of the Board of Audit, Gen. Cochrane, is omitted from the Board of Audit. In all other respects the bill is essentially the same as the amended bill which passed the House last Friday. The friends of the original bill of Mr. Hawkins could not be contented without rehearsing their parts in the absurd debate a week ago. They actually took up the position which the Assembly should have taken, and insisted that the Assembly should adhere to its own Board of Audit, and keep Gen. Cochrane in, in spite of his friends. Had it not been for the Hawkins clique, the bill as it left the Senate would have passed. They were clearly the aggressors. If, as Gov. Alford said, this question "has been agitated beyond what is good for the Republican party," it is clear where the responsibility belongs.

The almost unanimous decision of the Senate was respected and accepted by those who earnestly advocated the original measure as wise and necessary. It was disputed by those who, if they had carried their point and gotten Mr. Cochrane back into the Board of Audit, would have gained nothing and would have been bitterly disappointed had they succeeded. It was an exhibition of the spirit of faction, pure and unadorned, and unaccompanied by any extenuating circumstances. Messrs. Judd, Hawkins, Alger, Smith, Font and Flannery did all the talking—and the bare notice of this fact is all the mention their talking deserves. Mr. Alford contented himself with a few words, in reply to an imputation on his motives, and Messrs. Niles and Vedder spoke briefly in reply to the wild declaration of the minority.

The business of the House was impeded and prevented by this wrangle, so that there is little else to comment on. The form was gone through with of considering three bills in Committee, but it was a ridiculous farce, none of the bills being read. The Railroad Committee obtained an indefinite extension of time for the prosecution of their inquiries as to the proper number of trains which ought to be run by the Hudson River Railroad for the accommodation of the citizens of Yonkers.

Mr. Eastman introduced the same bill which was presented by Mr. O'Brien in the Senate yesterday, for the dissolution of the present Erie Board of Directors. Mr. Brown handed in a local Prohibition bill, which was ordered to be printed. A resolution was passed calling on the Governor for any information he may have in regard to the infamous practice of tampering with bills after they had passed the Legislature, inserting clauses which were never enacted, and erasing other clauses. A report was handed in, concerning the Capital Commissioners from any infraction of the Eight-Hour law.

The Legislature has again adjourned over from Friday noon, until Monday night. The loss of time is two days to the Legislature as a deliberative body, and three days to it as a collection of committees. When due consideration is given to the enormous mass of business demanding the attention of the members, this neglect of duty is simply criminal. The vote in the Assembly was 56 for adjournment and 45 against. In point of fact, however, not one third of the Assemblymen are in favor of wasting more of their precious time in the business of legislation than is absolutely required to go through the motions.

The Senate did nothing of consequence, except to pass the bill fixing the numbers and compensation of officers and supernumeraries of the Legislature. No amendments of importance were made to the Assembly bill. The division on the question of adjournment from to-day until Monday night, was at first a tie, but an odd Senator was found and brought in, and the resolution was carried by his vote.

The Charter of the Committee of Seventy, with such amendments as the Committee on Cities may agree on, will probably be reported for the consideration of the two Houses at an early day. One or two more joint meetings of the Committees will be held. The Committees are anxious that all parties should be heard, and are willing to give all plans a fair consideration. It is contemplated to have the next public meeting on Thursday, in the Assembly Chamber, and a general attendance of the members of the Senate and Assembly is desired.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE, ALBANY, JAN. 26, 1872.

The bills extending the time for collection of taxes, allowing the Third Avenue Railroad Company to use police cars, and to abolish the office of Register of Taxes in the City of Brooklyn, were reported favorably.

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